

- 33 -

1 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the distorting includes rendering the encoded
2 linear matrix image with a web browser to form a partially-transformed linear matrix
3 image.

1 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the rendering forms a partially-transformed
2 linear matrix image, the distorting further including:
3 sending the partially-transformed linear matrix image through a print channel to
4 form the transformed linear matrix image.

1 31. An encoded linear matrix image representative of binary data, comprising:
2 a predetermined detection key recognizable in a transformed detection key portion
3 of a transformed linear matrix image produced by transmitting the encoded linear matrix
4 image over an image data channel, the encoded detection key adapted to delineate the
5 transformed linear matrix image from other channel data;
6 a predetermined tuning pattern proximate the detection key, the predetermined
7 tuning pattern comparable to a transformed tuning pattern portion of the transformed
8 linear matrix image so as to define image-distortion characteristics of the channel;
9 at least one encoding parameter image proximate the predetermined tuning pattern,
10 a transformed encoding parameter image portion of the transformed linear matrix image
11 processable according to the image-distortion characteristics so as to recover at least one
12 corresponding encoding parameter; and

- 34 -

13 a data section representative of the binary data proximate the at least one encoding
14 parameter, a transformed data section of the transformed linear matrix image processable
15 according to the at least one encoding parameter and the image-distortion characteristics
16 so as to recover the binary data.

1 32. The method of claim 31, wherein each of the predetermined detection key, the
2 predetermined tuning pattern, the at least one encoding parameter image, and the data
3 section includes a plurality of regions of color markings, each individual one of the
4 plurality of regions having a predetermined size and one of a set of predetermined colors.

1 33. The method of claim 32, wherein each individual one of the plurality of regions
2 in the data section has a color representative of a predetermined quantity of the binary
3 data.

1 34. The method of claim 32, wherein the predetermined detection key, the
2 predetermined tuning pattern, and the at least one encoding parameter image are separated
3 from each other in the encoded linear image by white space.

1 35. The method of claim 32, wherein the predetermined size varies among
2 individual ones of the plurality of regions in the predetermined tuning pattern.

1 36. A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions therein
2 which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:

- 35 -

3 define encoding parameters adapted for encoding the binary data in such a manner
4 that a transformed linear matrix image produced by transmitting an encoded linear matrix
5 image over an image data channel is reconstructable into the encoded linear matrix image;
6 and
7 encode the binary data into the encoded linear matrix image according to the
8 encoding parameters.

1 37. A processor-readable medium having processor-executable instructions therein
2 which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to:
3 analyze a header section of the received linear matrix image to determine image-
4 distortion characteristics of an image data channel;
5 decode the header section according to the image-distortion characteristics so as to
6 recover at least one encoding parameter, the at least one encoding parameter previously
7 used to encode the binary data; and
8 decode a data section of the received linear matrix image according to the at least
9 one encoding parameter so as to form recovered binary data.

1 38. A method for encoding binary data for transmission over an image data
2 channel, comprising:
3 a step for defining encoding parameters adapted for encoding the binary data in
4 such a manner that a transformed linear matrix image produced by transmitting an